

Daily Report

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Chad

Rebel Leader Kette Views Political Issues

LD2402143294 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] A cease-fire has been signed between the Chadian Government and Moise Kette's rebel movement. This is the first concrete result of peace talks, which began on Tuesday [22 February] in Bangui in the Central African Republic. Talks are continuing today. The rebel movement, the National Awakening Committee for Peace and Democracy [Comite de Sursaut National pour la Paix et la Democratie—CSNPD] is calling for a referendum on setting up a federal state in Chad. Moise Kette explained the request:

[Begin Kette recording] We will be examining the second condition, relating to the organization of a referendum on the form of the state. The unitary state has exacerbated the tensions between the different communities to such an extent that we feel that, in order to preserve the very unity of Chad, it has become important to reconsider the form of the state. If the people vote, the CSNPD will respect their verdict. We are not going to impose federalism by decree, but we think that the people are sovereign and that they have to be consulted. If we do this, it is in the interest of the Chadian people. Some people think that federalism means secession. Far from it, we see it rather as a form of management; we have to try to adapt, the least we can do is to try. If, in the long term, we find that federalism is not appropriate, then we can return to the unitary model. [end recording]

Gabon

RNB Blamed for Latest Violence in Libreville

AB2402124394 Paris AFP in English 1225 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] Libreville, 24 Feb (AFP)—Shooting broke out in working-class districts of the Gabonese capital on Thursday [24 February] as the government accused the opposition of arming its activists during a bloody general strike. The violence, which erupted alongside a trade union protest at the cost of living, has claimed at least six lives with the gunning down late Wednesday of the latest known victim, a corporal in the parachute regiment, the security forces stated.

Speaking for the government, the daily L'UNION newspaper charged that the main opposition party led by Paul Mba Abessole had hijacked the strike for its own ends and was handing out hunting rifles, other guns and machetes.

Small groups of armed opposition militants continued to man barricades in outlying districts of Libreville, which were cordoned off by police and troops, sources close to the security forces said. The city centre and the seafont, patrolled by President Omar Bongo's crack guard troops,

remained calm, however, and no trouble was reported from Gabon's traditionally volatile second city, Port Gentil.

The whereabouts of Abessole, a Roman Catholic priest and leader of the National Lumberjacks' Rally (RNB) party, were not clear on Thursday, opposition activists said. Security forces had Wednesday stormed his house on the outskirts of the capital after giving chase to opposition activists who had opened fire on them, government television reported. But an opposition spokesman told AFP that the RNB leader had not been at home when the raid took place.

Thursday's press attack on Abessole, whom L'UNION accused of being "chief of a warmongering band," was the first direct criticism of the opposition leader by the government paper since he claimed to have defeated Bongo in presidential elections in December.

Tension was reported from Oyem, the chief town of the RNB's stronghold in the northern Woleu-Ntem Province, where opposition supporters had moved the local transmitter of their Radio-Liberte. Early Tuesday, security forces destroyed Radio-Liberte's equipment in Libreville itself, sparking violence in which an official of Bongo's Democratic Party was burned to death in his home.

A dozen public and private sector trade unions launched the strike Monday to push for higher wages following last month's 50 percent devaluation of the CFA franc, the common currency among 14 African countries pegged to the French franc. "But we are a long way now from devaluation or politics," one analyst said Wednesday. The "law of the jungle" had taken over in the poorer districts of Libreville, he added.

Free Trade Unions Confederation Suspends Strike

AB2402140594 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] This morning, President Bongo held discussions with trade unionists and the business community in Libreville on how to mitigate the negative effects of the devaluation and the strikes paralyzing the nation's economic activities. Following this exceptional meeting, the Gabonese Confederation of Free Trade Unions [CGSL] has decided to suspend its general strike. CGSL Secretary General Francis Mayombo talks to Jean de Dieu Odong Ovono.

[Begin Mayombo recording] After the explanations given by various parties, the head of state ordered negotiations to commence swiftly. Thus negotiations will begin this afternoon at the Ministry of Planning with a view to reviewing prices. Next week, precisely on 1 March, we shall examine, together with the same committee, the parity of wage increases.

We are, therefore, suspending our strike in order to negotiate with the government and to analyze the eventual increases whose percentages we do not know yet. We shall first have to negotiate with the government and show evidence of skyrocketing prices. This will enable us to trigger off a system of negotiations on the basis of the loss of purchasing power and the housewife's expenditure. It is only then—at the 1 March meeting—that we shall be clear about the parity of the increases that will be made. [end recording]

Rwanda

Peace 'Slowly' Returning to Kigali, Suburbs

EA2402165094 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1115 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] After demonstrations that led to a loss of lives and damage to property over the past few days, peace is slowly returning to the Rwandan capital, Kigali, and its suburbs. State employees have gone back to work. Public and private transportation is functioning normally. Markets and shops are open.

The demonstrations, which had paralyzed all activities in Kigali, led to a loss of lives and damage to property. Hospital sources say that Kigali Hospital registered 15 dead and 43 injured, 14 of whom are still hospitalized. Among the injured is a small girl aged six, who lost her arm. The toll forwarded by the Belgian Red Cross is much heavier. About 20 are reported to have died and the number of injured is estimated at 100.

According to the police (7brigade) operating in Kigali, peace has returned in almost all areas of the town. However, last night in Gikondo, a man and a woman were killed at (Gatenga). Families who fled their homes in the Gikondo area have not yet returned. This information was reported by our correspondent in Kigali, Jean-Pierre Nshimirumuremyi.

President Calls For Citizens To Persevere

EA2402173594 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 0430 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Excerpts] The transitional government and National Assembly, which were enlarged to include the Rwanda Patriotic Front [RPF], whose establishment was expected to have taken place yesterday, are yet to be set up. Once again, the head of state, Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, arrived at the National Development Council building, only to note the absence of the RPF, as well as the Social Democratic Party, and of the two prime ministers.

Those who attended the ceremony included the UN secretary general's special representative to Rwanda, Dr. Jacques-Roger Booh Booh, General Romeo Dallaire, the commander of the UN Assistance Mission to Rwanda, the diplomatic corps in Kigali, and other representatives.

It was a return to 5 January, and the head of state can only regret this. Here is President Juvenal Habyarimana:

[Begin Habyarimana recording] Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I ask you to stand and observe a minute of silence in memory of the late Felicien Gatabazi and Martin Bucyana [CDR chairman].

I had invited you to this ceremony for the establishment of the two remaining transitional institutions, namely the Transitional National Assembly and the broad-based transitional government. I had thought the situation was ripe for conclusion following consultations and discussions which have been continuing since 5 January, as well as all the long meetings which have been held. But I note, just like you, that unfortunately we are still at the [word indistinct] of 5 January. I cannot establish a broad-based transitional government when the prime minister who would lead it is absent.

Somebody wanted to joke—he thought he was joking. He said: Honestly, it is a strange situation in Rwanda—to have two prime ministers for a government that no longer functions and another for a government that has not yet arrived. That is the situation, and it is lasting too long. I can only agree, and at the same time thank those who responded to the call. The ceremony was in fact scheduled to take place yesterday afternoon.

After the consultations I have just mentioned, and after the meeting I had with the prime minister-designate two days ago, it had appeared that the ceremony would take place yesterday afternoon. But with the death of the late Gatabazi, we had to postpone it until this morning at 1000. And at 0800, I was told that the prime minister had asked that the ceremony be postponed (7by) 14 hours, which I accepted. So that is the situation. [passage omitted]

For my part, I do not see, after all these consultations and discussions, what I can do. Those with better brains than ours can give us further suggestions. But I believe everyone has contributed their goodwill.

So, since the media are here, I take this opportunity also to launch an appeal to the Rwandan population not to lose hope, to remain committed to peace, which they have always sought and abided by, which was disrupted by unfortunate chance, but which the Rwandan people still yearn for.

Let all the events we have gone through, the disasters we have talked about, be a lesson for us to remain united, despite the various parties to which we belong, despite the various regions we are from, and despite our ethnic affiliations. We are all and we all remain Rwandans, all equal, with equal rights. [passage omitted] [end recording].

RPF Blames President Habyarimana Crisis

EA2402170094 (Clandestine) Radio M. in English to Rwanda 1900 GMT 23 Feb 94

[Communique issued by the RPF; place and date not given]

[Text] The communique reads as follows: It is now seven months after a peace agreement was signed between the RPF [Rwanda Patriotic Front] and the Rwandan Government. The implementation of the peace agreement was to begin 37 days from 4 August 1993. Also, it is almost two months since RPF leaders and a battalion of 600 RPF soldiers arrived in Kigali. That was on 28 December 1993, which was in line with the implementation of the peace agreements.

The broad-based transitional government was supposed to be set up on 29 December 1993. However, this was not possible up to the present day due to a few people who want to maintain the dictatorship because of their personal interests and interests and benefits. Those people are none other than the MRND [Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development] CDR [Coalition for the Defence of the Republic] clique, with President Habyarimana at the top. President Habyarimana created divisions within the PL [Liberal Party], after which he and his cohorts created another pretext that the broad-based transitional government should be set up after the parties that will comprise the transitional institutions have agreed to give amnesty to all people who have or may have committed crimes in the past. By this, the clique intends to forget that amnesty is given by the people to whom the crimes were committed, and after the people who committed the crimes accept the crimes and confess to the people that were offended.

However, this was not the real issue that the MRND-CDR clique wanted to bring forward, but only a tactic they wanted to employ so as to maintain the same powers MRND had before the signing of the peace agreements. With much effort to frustrate the setting up of the broad-based transitional government, President Habyarimana's clique has resorted to creating divisions in political parties, terrorism and widespread massacres all over the country, especially in the capital, Kigali.

On the 20 February 1993, a group of MRND-CDR supporters who called themselves power started acts of terrorism in the capital, Kigali, with an intention to preempt a political rally that was organized by Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu, the prime minister-designate for the broad-based transitional government. The acts of hooliganism left car windscreens shattered, houses broken into and several people dead.

The following day, on 21 February, the same group of people put barricades around the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Constitutional Court, thus holding hostage employees in the two places for the whole day.

During the night of 21 February leading to 22, a date on which the broad-based transitional government was to be in place, the minister of works and energy, Mr. Felicien Gatabazi, who was also the secretary general of an opposition party, PSD, [Social Democratic Party] was shot dead. The death Mr. Gatabazi met could occur to any other political leader within the opposition parties, even the RPF. This is aimed at reducing the force that opposes the clique that wants to cling on to power.

The RPF informs all banyarwanda [Rwandan people] and the international community that it cannot accept and allow President Habyarimana and his clique to continue acts of terror and killing innocent banyarwanda. President Habyarimana does all this when the international community is looking on and instead of denouncing him decided to attribute all that is happening in our country to political parties in Rwanda. The RPF will not keep on watching. It has the ability and the right to take decisions at any time. The RPF is impressed to see banyarwanda coming together to fight for their rights. The RPF also requests an inquiry into the death of the minister of works and energy, Mr. Felicien Gatabazi, so that those responsible for his death are brought to court.

Curfew Imposed in Dead Party Leader's Home Area

EA2402194594 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in Kinyarwanda 1700 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Excerpt] A curfew has been imposed in Cyimbogo commune, Cyangugu Prefecture, in southwestern Rwanda. Our colleague Nambaje tells us more:

[Nambaje] The decision was prompted by the low level of safety following the killing of Martin Bucyana, who came from Cyimbogo, when some people started looting and burning the homes of Tutsis. Over the past three days, a man and a woman were killed and more than 20 houses were burned down. Some people are homeless, and others have fled. Last night, 50 people, mainly children, slept at Cyangugu Parish. Currently there are 70 people at the teachers' college in Mururu who fled their homes in fear. Today, Cyangugu Prefect Emmanuel Bagambiki met the inhabitants of (Tete) and (Mutongo) to consider ways of restoring peace in the two sectors, and throughout the entire Cyimbogo commune. In other sectors, such as (Muruhongo) and (Karenzo), the atmosphere is tense. [passage omitted].

Somalia

Aidid Adviser Demands Withdrawal of Foreign Troops*AU2402164694 Hamburg STERN in German
24 Feb 94 p 176*

[Interview with Mohamed Abdullatif, adviser to General Mohamed Farah Aidid, by Perry Kretz; place and date not given: "Our People Are Tired of War"]

[Text] [Kretz] What do you think about the German troop withdrawal?

[Abdullatif] We want all troops, irrespective of their nationality, to leave our country. This military intervention under the smokecreen of the UN operation has brought even more instability to our country after years of civil war. Everyone involved carries the same responsibility, including the Germans.

[Kretz] Will a new civil war erupt?

[Abdullatif] Our people are tired of war. We want to bring about stability and achieve peace without foreign assistance.

[Kretz] How should that happen?

[Abdullatif] We will work to disarm ourselves and create a new administration. Then, other countries could also help us. Disarmament should not involve violence. There should also be no more military conflicts between the two big clans, General Aidid's Habargidir and clan leader Ali Mahdi's Abgal.

[Kretz] Would Aidid be prepared to assume the post of president?

[Abdullatif] If he is called upon do so, he will. In the end, he is a prominent person, and it was he who chased the former dictator Barre out of the country. However, we will not resort to weapons and democratic elections will be held.

[Kretz] Don't you need foreign assistance to rebuild the country?

[Abdullatif] We have established contacts with other African countries that will assist us in reconstruction. We would like Germany to be the first European country that we will visit. We told that to the German ambassador in Nairobi, and we would welcome German assistance. The Germans are always welcome in Somalia. The condition is that they do not come in uniforms.

Uganda

President, Belgian Minister Discuss Cooperation*EA2502110094 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1400 GMT 23 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni has held a meeting with the Belgian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Willy Claes. The meeting took place at State House in Kampala. During the meeting, Mr. Claes briefed the president about the steps being taken by the EC to strengthen and enhance cooperation with Uganda, as well as encourage regional cooperation and integration on the continent. He said that Africa now needs to strengthen regional cooperation because the regional alternative ensures peace and stability, which are essential for development.

President Museveni told the Belgian foreign minister that Uganda emphasizes neutrality (when) dealing with developed nations. He said developed countries could work beneficially with Uganda by concentrating on investment and trade, as well as giving soft loans that would help the government in capacity building. [passage omitted]

Air Services Accord Signed With South Africa*EA2502113794 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1400 GMT 23 Feb 94*

[Excerpt] Uganda and South Africa have signed a memorandum of understanding and initialed a bilateral air services agreement in Pretoria, South Africa. The two agreements were signed by the permanent secretary, Ministry of Works, Transport, and Communications, Mr. Wilson Wanyama, and the director of civil aviation administration in South Africa Mr. (Louis Boyd), in Pretoria, South Africa, last week.

A press release issued by the Ministry of Works, Transport, and Communications in Kampala today says the signing of the bilateral air services agreement will be performed by the ministers responsible for civil aviation of the two countries in due course. The memorandum of understanding and the air services agreement provide a legal framework within which Uganda and South Africa will operate air services between the countries. Under the agreement, the national airlines of each country will each operate (two) passenger flights and one cargo flight a week between Johannesburg and Entebbe and vice versa. [passage omitted]

Buthelezi: Latest Proposal 'Basis' for Talks
MB2502054594 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0010 GMT 25 Feb 94

[Report by Micel Schnehage]

[Text] Cape Town Feb 24 SAPA—Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) President Mangosuthu Buthelezi on Thursday [24 February] night said the latest government proposal on the position of the Zulu king in a future constitutional dispensation—as forwarded by the government on Thursday afternoon—could be accepted as “a basis” for further discussions and negotiations on the issue. The proposals arose out of two days of discussions between a South African Government delegation and emissaries from King Goodwill Zwelithini and a delegation from the IFP.

A statement issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs late on Thursday night said “he (Mr Buthelezi) said he was in favour of further urgent talks on the aforesaid proposals”.

Ministry spokesman Niel du Bois said Mr Buthelezi's acceptance of the proposals as a basis for further urgent discussions on the issue was a “breakthrough” which “laid the foundation for further urgent talks which could open the door for the participation of the IFP in the election”.

The constitutional talks ended provisionally on Thursday afternoon at an undisclosed venue outside Cape Town to allow the parties to report back to their principals.

Minister of Home Affairs Danie Schutte, who also headed the government delegation at the talks, said he had spoken to Mr Buthelezi late on Thursday night when the kwaZulu chief minister had said he was indeed in favour of further urgent talks on the aforesaid proposals.

The proposals which resulted from the two-day meeting between the government, the emissaries and the IFP were put to King Goodwill and Mr Buthelezi who faxed his reply to Mr Schutte late on Thursday night.

Mr du Bois said in a statement that further talks on the position of the king in a future dispensation as well related matters would have to take place on Friday, February 25, “before the finalisation of amendments to the constitution by the joint committee of Parliament on constitutional matters which sits today (Friday).” Mr du Bois told SAPA plans were being devised to see “how it can be practically possible to get the negotiators together” to further discuss the issues.

The discussions between the government, emissaries from King Goodwill and the IFP delegation were the result of a meeting between the king and State President F. W. de Klerk in Pretoria on Tuesday.

Amendments, Electoral Act Tabled in Parliament
MB2402210794 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1723 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Report by D van Zyl]

[Text] Parliament Feb 24 SAPA—Amendments to the constitution and the electoral act—flowing from decisions taken earlier this week at the negotiation council at Kempton Park—have been tabled in Parliament. They are to be considered by the relevant parliamentary standing committees on Friday before being formally debated and decided upon by Parliament at its special three-day session starting on Monday.

Proposed amendments to the constitution include:

- a name change of Natal Province to kwaZulu/Natal;
- extending the legislative competence of provincial assemblies;
- giving provinces more powers regarding their financial and fiscal affairs;
- providing for the establishment of a “volkstaat” council and setting out its functions;
- providing for separate ballots for national and regional polls; and
- adding a new constitutional principle authorising the Constitutional Assembly “to include in the new constitutional text provision for communities sharing a common cultural and language heritage to exercise a recognised form of internal self-determination should it be proved that there is substantial support in such a community for such self-determination”.

Proposed amendments to the electoral act include:

- provision for the late registration or amendment of registration of parties participating in the poll for the National Assembly and regional assemblies; and
- provision for two ballots.

De Klerk Says Room for Afrikaner Homeland in Cape

MB2302154894 Johannesburg Afrikaans Stereo Radio Network in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 23 Feb 94

[Text] State President F.W. de Klerk has asked Afrikaner Volksfront [National Front] leader General Constand Viljoen to direct his followers away from commenting violence.

President de Klerk said at Postmasburg in the northern Cape that room has been created for Gen. Viljoen's strategic volkstaat [homeland] option. According to the state president, Conservative Party leader Ferdi Hartzenberg was engaging in petty party politics by rejecting the latest constitutional proposals.

President de Klerk had earlier said that he was prepared to testify before the Independent Electoral Commission on intimidation after another one of his meetings at Postdene, just outside Postmasburg, was disrupted. He

said several cases of intimidation with the relevant evidence have already been presented by the National Party to the commission, and it has been said that such evidence was too vague. President de Klerk said that today he had been an eyewitness of intimidation in which people had apparently been provided with official ANC [African National Congress] flags, banners, and placards.

The state president has canceled this evening's planned visit to (Agaleshuwe) just outside Kimberly. He said the move is aimed at his supporters' safety in the township as two vehicles have already been reported burned.

PAC Official Explains Political Strategy

MB2002124194 Johannesburg SUNDAY NATION in English 20 Feb 94 pp 7-8

[Report by Amrit Manga]

[Text] Most political parties have dropped their pretences at diplomacy and have hauled out their election-eering artillery in preparation for what promises to be a bruising battle for power. But the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] has maintained a noticeable subdued election profile. It is the only one of the four major parties contesting the elections for both the national and provincial assemblies that has not yet begun campaigning in earnest.

In the past week, it tried to dispel speculation that its low profile is due to financial difficulties. Unlike other parties, the PAC went along to the Independent Electoral Commission with R[and]70,000 in crisp notes to pay its deposit for registration as a political party. But it has delayed the unveiling of a detailed manifesto three times. This is now expected to be made public next week. However, the PAC itself is attaching little weight to such a programme. Its emphasis is on intense campaigning at grassroots level.

This partly explains why the organisation has done little in the way of election rallies and mass meetings to project a public profile. This is except for its December national congress in Umtata which ratified participation in the election. But its low election profile may well be due to the controversy surrounding the decision to contest the April polls. Not all in the PAC, for example, agree that the armed struggle should be suspended in preparation for participation in the elections. But PAC officials disagree that the launch of the campaign has been delayed and do not seem unduly perturbed by dissension in the eastern Cape, arguing that it is limited to a few individuals. The organisation, they say, has concentrated its efforts at the grassroots level rather than the media.

In any case, the PAC's December conference satisfied itself that tactical and strategic considerations debated by delegates provide a sound basis for participation in the polls, the officials say.

PAC foreign affairs chief Gora Ebrahim argues: "The principle that the PAC has been pursuing all along is that the election must be for a constituent assembly, whose primary task must be draw up the new non-racial democratic constitution. The PAC's national conference on December 16 1993 was satisfied that the April elections would be for a constituent assembly to draw up a new, non-racial, democratic constitution. It therefore meets the PAC's primary demand and, on that basis, we will participate in the coming election."

While the PAC is content with the primary objective of the April elections, its decision to participate was not an unqualified one. Ebrahim says his organisation will be sitting in the constituent assembly but will not consider itself bound by any of the constitutional principles agreed upon by other participants at the multi-party talks last year. "The PAC congress has taken a decision that we are going into an election for an unfettered constitutional assembly [CA]. We believe that the elected people cannot be bound by an unelected group's decisions."

Ebrahim adds that the PAC only considers itself bound by those principles that are enumerated and enshrined in the 1989 Consensus Declaration of the United Nations. Included in this declaration are basic principles binding parties to a multi-party democracy, a universally accepted Bill of Rights, an independent judiciary, regular elections etc. It does not consider itself bound by principles providing limited powers for regional government or those allowing for a Government of National Unity (GNU).

"There are also other deals, struck between the ANC [African National Congress] and the NP [National Party], that the PAC is not bound by," says Ebrahim. Among these is the deal which effectively resulted in the decision at multi-party talks for a single ballot in the April elections, he says. Ebrahim added that, as things stand, the PAC would not participate in the Transitional Executive Council (TEC). But this is not an open and shut case—"We are still involved in talks with the government and hope that obstacles in the way of the PAC joining the TEC will be removed." One of these obstacles revolves around the control over the security forces in the period up to the elections.

The PAC believes the government remains in control of the army and police while the TEC only has jurisdiction over liberation armies and homeland security forces. It is of the view that all armed forces, including the SA [South African] Defence Force and the South African Police, should come under TEC command.

Just how successful the PAC will be in getting its way is, however, in question. It has, for example, already sacrificed an important bargaining chip—the armed struggle. And some dissension in its ranks relates to the PAC's suspension of the armed campaign without having secured the necessary changes to the TEC Act.

There is also no certainty that the organisation will participate in the GNU, which it remains opposed to in

terms of its own principles and understanding of what constitutes a democracy. But there remains a possibility that the PAC will join the GNU if it believes this will serve its strategic interests. Participation in the GNU will depend on the same process of debate and assessment that went into determining the strategic value of participating in the multi-party negotiating council, says Ebrahim.

"If we find that we can meaningfully make a contribution, we will participate in the GNU." But a final decision will only be taken when the GNU is established, says Ebrahim, cautioning that the pros and cons of participation have not yet come up for discussion.

This decision will be informed by the PAC's capacity to influence the final constitution. And this in turn depends on the support the organisation enjoys among South African voters, Ebrahim explains.

But, if recent opinion polls are anything to go by, the PAC is unlikely to muster the support of more than two percent of the country's estimated 22.5-million voters.

While Ebrahim agrees that its clout at the CA will depend on the support it can mobilise in the run up to the elections, he disputes the accuracy of the opinion polls. "These polls do not affect us in the least when we examine them against reports, from delegates throughout the country, of our strength at the grassroots level. We took a very firm decision to participate in the elections despite these strange polls—in our view, the only thing that these polls will prove is how wrong they were."

Ebrahim says a PAC study has shown, that of an estimated 21-million voters in the country, only four to five million were committed or card-carrying members of political parties. "You have between 15- and 16-million voters out there who make up the floating vote. Our study shows that this floating vote will vote on the basis of two considerations," says Ebrahim.

At one level, these voters' choice will be based on their perception of different political organisations: "is it principled, has it compromised, has it compromised too much, is it involved in violence?"

"These are some of the questions the floating majority will ask before they cast their votes," says Ebrahim.

"But the bulk of this majority will cast its votes on straightforward bread and butter issues such as security, housing, employment, land, education and health. We have found that the bulk of the people are literally doing shopping and that is why people want to know what parties are offering. We also found that there has been a fundamental change in the thinking of our people in the post-February 1990 period. Prior to this period, we found that people would support you for simply opposing the regime. Today, they want to know what's in it for them."

Ebrahim is confident that his party will capture a sizable part of the floating vote because it has a strong message and programme that addresses every one of the bread and butter concerns. "We are not perceived in the townships as being involved in violence and that is a major asset in those areas where violence is endemic. We also know that no political organisation in the world wins an election on the basis of its membership—more important is what's on offer. For all these reasons, we think we stand an excellent chance of winning a substantial majority," Ebrahim says without a hint of doubt.

He adds that it was against the background of these considerations that the Umtata conference decided to contest the elections, confident that the PAC has the ingredients to capture the floating vote.

Its success will, however, depend on its election manifesto, which is expected to be unveiled next week. Ebrahim would not speculate on the manifesto's contents. Asked whether it would focus exclusively on constitutional issues, given that the PAC sees the elections as nothing more than an exercise in electing a constituent assembly, Ebrahim said no. He says that, while the PAC will be asking voters for a mandate to write a new constitution, its manifesto will also focus on programmes to deliver on bread and butter issues. It will therefore reflect issues such as the PAC's economic policy.

While the manifesto will contain more than just constitutional matters relevant to a mandate for a constituent assembly, Ebrahim maintains that the PAC's goal is not government office but seats in a constituent assembly.

He is cagey about PAC participation in a GNU if it wins a substantial majority. He argues that this will partly be determined by how long it takes to draw up the constitution, which in turn will depend on the outcome of the election.

"It is possible that the constitution could be drawn up in six weeks if the elections deliver a decisive majority to any one party. But, even if there are many parties with a more or less equal distribution of the vote, the election will ensure that no party will be in a position to make exaggerated demands. If, for example, a party wins 10 percent of the vote, it cannot demand 90 percent of the vote in determining the form of the constitution—so it brings reality to the negotiations process in terms of what is attainable."

Ebrahim argues that if parties emerge from the elections without any one group enjoying a significant majority, the constitution-making process could take a long time. "But, assuming the PAC wins a significant majority and we are able to draw up a constitution within six weeks, then we must decide whether we will still be governed by an interim constitution for another five years thereafter."

"It is possible," Ebrahim argues, "that the new constitution will demand that we have an election after six months. Then there will be need to continue with the GNU."

The other option for the PAC, if it does not obtain an absolute majority, is to remain outside of the GNU as an opposition. Ebrahim would not say whether it would then function as a parliamentary resistance opposition. That would depend on how the party is treated by the GNU, he says. "It is not prudent for the PAC to say how it will function in the post-April election period before the outcome of the election," says Ebrahim.

What is certain is that, if the PAC wins a majority and is able to, together with minority parties, write up a new constitution, it will ignore what it says is a deal between the NP and the ANC to run the country through a government of national unity.

Electoral Commission Announces Voting Procedure

*MB2502073494 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2200 GMT 24 Feb 94*

[Report by L. Elias]

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 24 SAPA—Voting procedure for the April election was announced on Thursday [24 February] by the Independent Electoral Commission [IEC]. Voters will have their identification checked at the doors of polling stations where party voting agents will also conduct ID checks. The voter will have both hands studied under ultra-violet lights.

The voter's knuckles will then be dipped in an invisible but UV sensitive marking fluid which will wear off in about a week. The voter will hand in his identity document or temporary voter card to an official who will mark it and then a ballot paper will be given to the voter with the ID document. The voter will then go to one of the voting compartments and vote in secret before placing the ballot paper into a ballot box for the National Assembly election.

The voter then moves to another table where his ID is checked again before a second ballot paper, this time for the provincial legislature, is folded and handed to the voter.

The voter then votes again in secret and casts the ballot in a box marked for the provincial legislature election, the IEC announced at a press conference at the World Trade Centre.

Pik Botha, OAU's Salim Discuss Mutual Relations

MB2402203094 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1600 GMT 24 Feb 94

[From the Channel Africa report program]

[Text] The secretary general of the Organization of African Unity, Salim Ahmed Salim, has held talks with the South African Government. He's on the third day of a week-long visit to the country, and after the talks the South African Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha stressed that the country must not become a new headache for the rest of Africa.

[Begin recording] [Botha] I would urge all South Africans to take note of the importance that Mr. Salim is attaching to this country. He has come here. He's a man with great problems himself that he must face in Africa, and he's come here with a top delegation because of his interest in us, because of the contribution that he wants to make to resolve our internal problems amongst the parties. And it is against this background that we have had a thorough exchange of the problems facing us, and I can say that I'm impressed with his objective and clinical analysis of the situation as he sees it.

[Salim] We think that it is very important for the leaders of South Africa and for the people of South Africa to look and prepare beyond the coming elections. We want to see a strong South Africa. We want to see South Africa as being one of the key parts in the resolution of African problems—not to be a focus of Africa's attention in resolving South African problems. We have had very, very useful, very extensive discussions with the minister. We have known each other for a long time. Those were difficult days, but it's such refreshing and such rewarding to come and discuss in an atmosphere of understanding, of concord, of almost identity of use on some or almost all the major issues that face our continent, and also that face South Africa. [end recording]

South African Press Review for 25 Feb

MB2502133794

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Democracy To Depend on Multiparty Political Center—Hermann Giliomee writes in an article on page 16 of Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 25 February that "the entire transition to democracy in South Africa turns on the construction and defence of a new multiparty political centre." The attempt to lure parties of the Freedom Alliance (FA) into the constitutional process "represents the first serious effort by the ANC [African National Congress] and the NP [National Party] to defend this centre. That this defence is unlikely to succeed in its immediate objective—to get the alliance into the elections—does not mean that a form of accommodation with the alliance over the longer term can be ruled out." Giliomee believes we have seen since December "a spirited and concentrated effort by disparate forces to broaden the centre and make the future democracy more viable."

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

BUSINESS DAY

Criticism of ANC's Concessions Timing—Billy Paddock writes in a page-10 article in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 25 February that "there is a view among some ANC strategists that the organisation may have committed a grievous error by footdragging late last year instead of offering at that early stage the concessions placed on the table in the past week." "It is true that the recent package of concessions does not fully meet the alliance's requirements. In particular, it falls far short of Inkatha's demand for a federal dispensation. But it goes a long way towards meeting the compromise package contained in the December 19 document which was worked out between government and the alliance. Had the concessions come then—rather than a firm rejection from the ANC—this could have created space for constructive negotiation, further compromise and a possible settlement, the argument goes."

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

Elections Never 'Absolutely Free and Fair'—"Clearly, the ballot will never be absolutely free and fair. The question is whether the disruption can be limited enough for the Independent Electoral Commission and the international observer missions to get away with a ruling that these elections are sufficiently free and fair to pass muster," notes a page-16 editorial in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 25 February-3 March. "It is becoming increasingly obvious that in significant areas of Natal/kwaZulu polling will be difficult and probably impossible. It is extraordinary that there is so little visible action to stop rightwing training of Inkatha impsis [warriors] and to break the power of the kwaZulu Police to take sides." The editorial also looks at the disruption of NP electioneering in the Cape, saying it should "also be addressed urgently by African National Congress leaders." "Free and fair elections—like fair cricket umpiring—are not going to come easy."

BEELD

PAC's Commitment to Democracy 'Fragile'—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 22 February says in a page-10 editorial: "The threat by the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] that it will return to the armed

struggle if it does not get its way with the redistribution of land indicates that this party's commitment to democracy and the ballot is very fragile. It was a precondition for the PAC's participation in the election that it renounce violence. Now it appears that the party is setting laughable demands expecting to realize them through the use of violence. Other parties which are participating in the election and are prepared to accept the outcome unconditionally will have to decide whether they wish to compete at the polls on such an unequal basis with a party which refuses to play by the rules of the game." "The PAC's manifesto in which laughable promises are made such as that all private land transactions will be abolished when land is returned to 'the people' underlines the fact that this party does not have the faintest idea of the demands of a modern society."

Alliance Leaders Incapable of Playing Role—"Another chapter in the dynamic process in South Africa is approaching completion and still the leaders of the FA hesitate, apparently incapable of themselves playing a role in it," says a page-14 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD of 23 February. "The Negotiating Council has now made it even easier for the FA leaders to enter the process with even more concessions than the government and the ANC had been prepared to make. Virtually all of the remaining objections of the alliance have now been removed." "If the FA leaders are undecided, powerless, hesitant, or stubborn, their followers need not also be left behind by history. There is a way they can become part of the dynamic process, and that is to vote in the election for a different party which can represent their interests."

Sarajevo Holds Lesson for RSA—A second editorial on page 14 of BEELD says: "From the rubble and tears of Sarajevo, where people allowed political intolerance to degenerate into a campaign of ethnic cleansing, a dazed resident warns despairingly that no one can help them unless they help themselves. Therein lies a profound lesson for South Africa with its complex ethnic make-up. Not even the intervention of the United Nations can end the slaughter in Bosnia." "South African politicians and others who use war talk to bedevil efforts at a settlement should realize before it is too late that in the final analysis no one will be able to help us here. We must help ourselves. One political commentator has already warned that the ethnic cleansing which we see in Bosnia has already started here in South Africa."

Angola**UNITA Attacks on Kunge, Menongue Reported***MB2402211394 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Feb 94*

[Text] The Kunge Commune, 5 km from the city of Cuito, in Bie Province, was intensely shelled by Jonas Savimbi's men yesterday afternoon. Despite the intense fire, the government forces stopped the advance of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. Our correspondent reports.

UNITA men attacked the Kunge Commune yesterday afternoon. Brigadier Mukume, second commander of the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] in Bie, said about three UNITA battalions attacked the commune yesterday afternoon. Brig. Mukume told our reporting team the FAA forces stationed in the area are in total control of the situation.

Estevao Daniel Kassoma, deputy provincial governor of Bie, has revealed that UNITA rebels are preparing an attack on the city of Cuito. Estevao Daniel Kassoma told the local press that in recent days Savimbi's men moved more than one dozen military vehicles, as well as troops and war materiel to the outskirts of Cuito with a view to reinforcing its positions.

In Menongue, Cuando Cubango Province, UNITA recently shelled FAA positions and continues to plant mines on the main roads leading to the city. Our correspondents in Menongue say on 21 February, UNITA launched various 81-mm mortar shells against the city, but the FAA response was quick and vigorous and Menongue continues under the control of the government forces.

No Progress Seen in Peace Talks in Lusaka*MB2402205494 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 24 Feb 94*

[Text] There is not much hope coming from the peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia. The parties are discussing one of the last points on the agenda, but peace still seems to be far away. Our correspondent Joao Ligio reports.

The mediators have finally drawn up the third version on specific principles, but it has not obtained the agreement of all parties as the UN officials had thought. This morning, the government and the mediators needed no more than 15 minutes to reach an agreement on the specific principles for national reconciliation. They were, however, confronted with the viewpoints of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA].

Late this afternoon, there was a major exchange of correspondence revealing that there was a new version from the mediators. The government delegation, reinforced with the presence of two more army generals, held

its own meeting and this evening left for a meeting with Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola.

A lengthy plenary meeting was then held, but the distance separating the parties has not reduced and the discussions are characterized by a threatening tone. For certain observers, attempts to reach an agreement were dashed because, despite changing its initial stand, UNITA has neither reduced the number of its demands, nor withdrawn the stand which the government consider unacceptable—the desire for power sharing.

President Denies Military Issues Discussed in Paris*MB2402203594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Feb 94*

[Text] The president of the Republic, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, is in France. On the second day of his visit, the Angolan head of state held to a tight agenda. Tomorrow, he will meet French President Francis Mitterrand. After meeting French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur today, Eduardo dos Santos said he has not gone to France to get weapons but to discuss peace and economics. Our Paris correspondent reports:

President Jose Eduardo Santos will shortly speak at an official dinner hosted by the French Foreign Ministry. The speech, which will be followed with great attention by French Government officials, is likely to deal with the Angolan Government's economic program, and the dramatic situation faced by millions of Angolans as a result of the unjust war waged by Jonas Savimbi's organization. This afternoon, the Angolan head of state had a working session with the French prime minister. At the end of the meeting, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said:

[Begin Santos recording, in French fading into Portuguese translation] We have reviewed bilateral cooperation, notably economic cooperation. We briefed the French prime minister about the ongoing Lusaka peace talks between government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] delegations. We informed the French prime minister about the economic recovery program the Angolan Government plans to introduce.

We have not come to Paris to ask for military aid from the French Government. We have not discussed military issues, but rather matters relating to peace and politics.

As for the peace talks, we have gone to Lusaka to find a solution to the Angolan problem. [end recording]

Also this afternoon, the Angolan head of state met government and party officials. Tomorrow, he is scheduled to hold further meetings, notably with President Mitterrand. Afterward, the two leaders will lunch together. A news conference is scheduled for 1730

tomorrow, during which Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos will discuss his visit to France.

Malawi

National Conference Approves Draft Constitution

EA2502122394 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] The four-day national constitutional conference ended today at (Kwacha) International Conference Center in Blantyre, with delegates approving the draft constitution, but also calling on the NCC [National Consultative Council] to contribute to the issue. Our correspondent says the delegates, among other issues, urged the NCC to redouble its efforts to ensure that the constitution becomes effective immediately after the forthcoming multiparty general elections. The conference also recommended that Malawi's traditional and moral values be included in the constitution in such a way that they stand to take (?their turn).

And in their speeches during the closing session, leaders [words indistinct] representatives of the various political parties thanked the NCC for organizing the conference. They said the conference had rendered their parties the opportunity to contribute their views on the draft constitution.

In his remarks, the UNDP [UN Development Program] resident representative in Malawi, Mr. (Michael Haynes), said the conference was a historic moment for Malawi, because it has provided an opportunity for laying a foundation for a new constitution for the country.

Namibia

South African Security Unit Arrives in Walvis Bay

MB2402132394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1200 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] Walvis Bay Feb 24 SAPA—A fully equipped unit of the South African Police Internal Stability Division

[ISD] arrived in Walvis Bay on Thursday, just four days before the enclave is handed to Namibia. The 94 troops from the Pretoria-based Unit 19 of the ISD off-loaded their bulletproof vests, ammunition, shotguns, R5 rifles and pistols from a Hercules C130 aircraft at the almost deserted Rooikop Air Base.

Swaziland

Prime Minister Announces New Ambassador to U.S.

MB2402075794 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 24 Feb 94 pp 1, 32

[Report by Bongani Mdluli]

[Text] Former Swaziland's High Commissioner in Canada, Mrs Madzandza Mary Khanya has been appointed Ambassador of Swaziland to the United States of America with effect from tomorrow. Mrs Khanya will take over from Mr Vusi Mamba who has been recalled.

This was announced yesterday by the Prime Minister [PM], Prince Mbilini as part of the major reshuffle programme in government. Taking over as High Commissioner in Canada is the former police chief, Mr Sandile Mdziniso.

Mrs Khanya was the first lady envoy appointed Swaziland's High Commissioner in Canada in 1990. Former Chief of Protocol, Mr Harry Mabuza has been appointed Ambassador of Swaziland to Mozambique.

He takes over from Mr Alphabet Nkambule who has retired. The appointment of Mr Mabuza is also with effect from tomorrow. The two Swazi envoys add to the list of new envoys announced by the PM on Tuesday. "I have the honour to announce that it has pleased His Majesty the King to appoint Mrs Mary Madzandza Khanya to the United States of America," he said.

Ghana**Renewed Fighting Reported in Northern Region***AB2402183094 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 24 Feb 94**[From the press review]*

[Text] In a lead story captioned **Troops Suppress Fresh Fighting in Gushiegu District** the GHANAIAN TIMES carries a report that, despite the state of emergency declared in [word indistinct] areas of the Northern Region, renewed fighting has erupted in the Gushiegu-Karaga District. According to the commander of the Second Brigade, Brigadier Joseph Smith, troops have been dispatched to the area to bring the situation under control. In a related development the TIMES says normal classes for first cycle institutions in the Tamale municipality have resumed, but security problems of pupils and teachers of the various ethnic groups still remain unsolved. A joint military-police task force is said to be addressing the issue.

Nigeria**General Denies Government Seeking War With Cameroon***AB2402214094 Dakar PANA in English 1720 GMT
24 Feb 94*

[Text] Lagos, 24 Feb (PANA)—Nigeria has no intention of going to war with neighbouring Cameroon, with which it is currently involved in a territorial dispute, Brigadier General Fred Chijuka, director of defence information said Thursday [24 February] in Lagos. He said that Nigeria remains committed to peace in the West African sub-region.

The defence spokesman, who was commenting on Wednesday's visit by a Cameroonian Government delegation to Nigeria's military ruler Gen. Sani Abacha on the disputed Bakassi Peninsula, said Nigeria "was happy at this initiative." "Nigeria has no desire to go to war with Cameroon", he said adding: "With this visit, the Cameroonian Government has seen that the path of peace is preferable to that of war". Chijuka said Nigeria's military strength and preparedness should not be underestimated in spite of the fact that some 12,000 of its troops are currently serving in ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], the West African peace-keeping force in Liberia.

A meeting between Gen. Abacha and President Paul Biya of Cameroon is in the pipeline, in an attempt to find a peaceful solution to the differences between the two countries. No date has been set for Biya's visit, seen as the highest level of diplomatic efforts aimed at resolving the long-standing dispute over the oil rich Bakassi Peninsula in south-eastern part of Nigeria.

Cameroon alleged last weekend that its troops were attacked by Nigerian troops in the disputed territory, a claim which Nigeria denied. Cameroon also claimed that Nigeria has been occupying parts of the disputed land illegally since 21 December. Nigeria alleged that 30 of its villages had been burnt, many villagers killed or maimed and women raped.

Abacha's First 100 Days in Office Reviewed*AB2502105794 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in
English 0600 GMT 25 Feb 94*

[Summary From Poor Reception] The present administration in the country is 100 days old in office. It came into power on 17 November 1993 with a broadcast by the head of state, General Sani Abacha.

"Nigerians have been speaking on the performance of the administration since its assuming office. While some believe that 100 days were still short to assess the performance of the administration, others say the government has done well so far." "Many people feel that the government has not done much in its first 100 days," but some have a "different opinion considering all that happened before the coming to power of this administration." They think "it will take a rather long time for things to normalize." Some say that the political situation and the political crisis that prevailed in the country have been brought to normal and that "Nigerians have become one once again." They add that when the national conference comes on it is then Nigerians will know exactly what Abacha has done.

Some Nigerians say that all government institutions are now performing well which is a very good beginning that gives credit to the present government. They say the government has taken the bull by the horn by engaging into an area which "the previous governments never looked into like trying to sanitize the Nigerian society."

Senegal**Wade, Savane Charged With Threatening State Security***AB2402211094 Paris AFP in French 1904 GMT
24 Feb 94*

[Text] It was learned from authoritative sources that the two main opposition leaders in Senegal—Abdoulaye Wade and Landing Savane—were today charged with "threatening state security," following investigations into riots in Dakar that left eight persons dead, including six policemen. Wade and Savane, secretary general of the Senegalese Democratic Party, PDS, and the African Party for Democracy and Socialism, PADS, respectively, were arrested on 18 February, 48 hours after the riots, and were remanded in custody.

Wade's lawyer and an official of PADS have both confirmed the charges. The two opposition leaders' period in custody had been extended twice, on 20 and 22 February.

Sixty-five other people were brought before the investigating judge, to prefer charges against them all, judicial sources said.

Togo

Opposition Affirms Readiness To Boycott Third Round

AB2402204594 Paris AFP in French 1501 GMT
24 Feb 94

[Text] Lome 24, Feb (AFP)—The Togolese opposition is ready to withdraw its candidates if, as President Gnassingbe Eyadema's supporters demanded, the Supreme Court should annul the poll in five of the constituencies it won during the legislative elections. This was stated by an opposition leader to AFP today. "We are not ready to go to a third round. If they impose it on us, we will withdraw," said the source, who preferred not to be named.

The opposition, represented by the Action Committee for Renewal, CAR, and the Togolese Union for Democracy, UTD, unofficially won 43 seats—36 by CAR and seven by UTD—which is two seats over the number required for absolute majority. The parties from the presidential camp obtained 37, and the remaining one was won by Joseph Kokou Koffigoh, the transitional prime minister, who is a centrist.

This opposition leader disclosed that the CAR and UTD representatives this morning went to the International Followup Committee, which comprises Burkinabe, French, German, Egyptian, and American delegates, to denounce the "illegal attitude" of the National Electoral Commission, CEN.

Yesterday evening, this commission transferred the entire results of the second round to the Supreme Court, but refrained from officially publishing those concerning the challenged five constituencies. Waiting for the magistrates' decision—to be made on 13 March at the latest—political consultations continued in Lome yesterday.

UTD General Secretary Ata Messan Ajavon described as "erroneous" the rumors that his party allegedly held contacts with the Rally of the Togolese People, RPT, the pro-Eyadema party.

From a reliable source within the UTD it was, however, confirmed that many meetings had taken place since yesterday with the CAR leader to "coordinate the attitude" of the two opposition parties. "In view of the electoral results, which force us to be a small party, we do not ask for anything. Our condition does not allow us to do so," this source stated, adding that the UTD intended

to play its role as a "buffer-party." Mr. Koffigoh, who is the only elected candidate of the Convention of New Forces, also wants to play this role. He reminded AFP that he was not an "RPT member" and that his party represented "a completely different leaning."

Opposition Electoral Commission Members Resign

AB2402203594 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 24 Feb 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Togo's electorate and politicians are having to wait even longer for the results from four crucial constituencies in last week's general elections. The opposition is neck and neck with President Eyadema's party, but there have been cries of foul over the conduct of the poll in the remaining four seats, which were regarded as in the bag for the opposition. Now the electoral commission has handed it all over to the Supreme Court for ratification. But it seems some of the commissioners are far from happy. From Lome, Ebow Godwin reports:

[Begin Godwin recording] Togo's National Electoral Commission waded into deep crisis today following decision by four opposition members serving on the commission to resign their posts. The resignation of the four follows the delay by the commission in releasing results of voting in five constituencies in which voting was disrupted by violence during last Sunday's second round of voting. A spokesman for the opposition representative, Pastor Lawson, told reporters that they were pulling out of the commission because of intimidation.

Yesterday, Togo's electoral commission said it was withholding results from the five disputed constituencies pending a ruling by the Supreme Court. That decision came only a few hours to the 72-hour deadline within which the commission was required by law to publish all provisional election results. Yesterday's statement said that the commission has submitted all 19 results out of the outstanding 24 constituencies to the Supreme Court for ratification. But opposition sources said they have no confidence in the country's constitutional chamber of the Supreme Court which has to determine petitions, because it is filled with appointees of President Gnassingbe Eyadema. Currently, the constituencies under litigation include two in Wawa, in the north, one in Haho in southern Togo, one in Sokode in central Togo, and one in the Lome metropolis.

Under Togo's electoral laws, Togo's Supreme Court has 15 days within which to make a ruling on the petition. [end recording]

Eyadema, Koffigoh Held First Meeting Since Elections

*AB2402202094 Lome Radio Lome in French
1900 GMT 24 Feb 94*

[Text] The president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, and Prime Minister Joseph Kokou Koffigoh this morning held a meeting at the president's Lome II residence. The talks between the two men lasted for more than an hour. This was the first meeting

between the two leaders of the executive branch of government after the second round of the legislative elections.

Provisional results from 19 constituencies out of the 24 whose candidates were neck and neck were released yesterday by the National Electoral Commission. The commission then submitted the partial results to the Supreme Court, which has a maximum of 15 days to proclaim the final results, after ruling on all cases of litigation.

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